

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT East German Military and Para-military Forces;

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

Information on the East German military and para-military forces, including in some cases, composition, unit designations locations, equipment and armament.

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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

SECRETGDR - GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

November 1958

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NATIONAL PEOPLE'S ARMY

Weapons supplied by the USSRTanks

T-34/76; one 76-mm cannon (L/41.2), one 7.62-mm machine gun. Note:

This is supplied only to the Border Guards.

T-34/85; one 85-mm cannon (Sis-S.L/53), two 7.62-mm machine guns.

T-43/85; one 85-mm cannon (Sis-S.L/53), one 12.7-mm AA machine gun.

Note: The T-43/85 is the new version of the T-34/85.

T-54/100; one 100-mm cannon (KWK), one 12.7-mm AA machine gun.

JS-I, JS-II (STALIN); one 122-mm cannon (KWK-D-25.L/43), two 7.62-mm machine guns.

JS-III (STALIN); one 122-mm cannon (KWK-D-25.L/45), one 12.7-mm AA machine gun. The JS-III have been supplied to only a few units.

Self-propelled guns

SU-85; one 85-mm cannon (KWK-L/51.5)

SU-122; one 122-mm cannon (KWK-L/22.7)

SU-152; one 152-mm cannon-howitzer (KWH-L/29)

Reconnaissance Tanks

KW-47; one 47-mm cannon (KWK-L/30.5), two 7.62-mm machine guns.

AA Artillery

SKODA-57 (ZSU-57-2); self-propelled, twin, 57-mm AA guns.

Armored Personnel Carriers

BTR-152; one 12.7-mm machine gun

Rocket Artillery

Katyushka-132; 132-mm

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Heavy Artillery

Howitzers; 152-mm

Cannon-howitzers; 122-mm

Mortars

Heavy mortars; 120-mm

Medium mortars; 82-mm

Antitank Artillery

Cannon; 76-mm

Cannon; 57-mm

AA Artillery

Heavy cannon; 85-mm

Medium cannon; 37-mm

Machine gun; 12.7-mm

Infantry Hand Weapons

Heavy machine gun; 7.62-mm

Light machine gun; 7.62-mm

Antitank Rifle; 14.5-mm

Rifle, Carbine; 7.62-mm

Machine pistol; 7.62-mm

Pistol; 7.62-mm

Ships

Escort Vessels (Frigate); 900-ton, Riga-class, 2 vessels

Motor Torpedo Boats; standard Soviet-class, 8 vessels

Patrol Vessels; 300-ton, Kronstadt-class, 4 vessels

Surveying Ship; 1,200-ton, Ekvator-class, one ship

Minesweeper; R-class (new type), 21 vessels

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Aircraft

MIG-15; 125 craft

MIG-17; 40 craft

YAK-3-9; 100 craft

IL-2; 80 craft

IL-12; 40 craft

Most of the craft are assigned to the military schools of COTTBUS, DESSAU, FRIESACK, BURG, and RECHLIN.

Missiles

There is evidence that the National People's Army has been supplied with the following types of Soviet missiles (military press of the National People's Army):

COMET-1; 13 x 1.30 meters, range 1,000-1,500 kilometers

Experimental bases: PEENEMUNDE, ALTEFAHR (on RUGEN Island) under the Operational Command of the 2nd Army Corps (North Army Corps) at NEUBRANDENBURG.

Operational base: ERFURT, under the Operational Command of the 1st Army Corps (South Army Corps) at LEIPZIG.

GOLEM-1; 16 x 1.70 meters, range 650 kilometers.

The GOLEM-1 is supplied to the Missile Experimental Division of the Navy Command at ROSTOCK.

These missile units are commanded by Soviet high-ranking officers; the low-ranking officers and the men belong to the National People's Army.

Motor Vehicles

ZIS, SKODA, BTR.

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MEN UNDER ARMS

Army, Navy, Air Force (National People's Army)	112,000
Border Guards	46,000
People's Police	13,500
Transport Police	8,500
Alert Police	25,000

Note: There is also a paramilitary organization called Worker Militia Groups trained in guerrilla warfare and with very specific duties.

In peacetime, this Militia protects the industrial installations and factories from domestic and foreign enemies. The Militia is under the Communist Party and trained by officers of the National People's Army and by Political Commissars.

The Militia is organized into groups, battalions, and companies. Each group has four battalions; each battalion, 3-4 companies.

Total strength: 215,000.

ARMY

Army Corps	2
Mechanized Divisions	3
Motorized Infantry Divisions	4
Mechanized Regiments	9
Motorized Infantry Regiments	12
Motorized Heavy Artillery Regiments	2
Antitank Artillery Regiments	2
Mixed Artillery Regiments	7
AA Artillery Regiments	6
Mortar Regiments	3

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Heavy Tank Regiments	3	
Medium Tank Regiments	7	
Reconnaissance Units	7	25X1
Guard Regiments	1	
Engineer Regiments	2	
Signal Regiments	2	
Special ABC Units	2	
Missile Battalions	1	
Motor Transport Regiments	3	

NAVY

Coastal Divisions	2	
Experimental Missile Divisions	1	
Reconnaissance Divisions	2	
Submarine Squadrons	1	
Flotillas		
Fast Motor Torpedo Boats	1 (2 ?)	
Coast Guard	1	
Antisubmarine	1	
Blockade (Sperrflotillen)	1	
Training	2	

One training vessel is used only by submarine crews.

AIR FORCE

Air Command Groups	3
Reconnaissance Groups	1
Transport Groups	1
Training Units	5

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SECRETCOMMANDS

Ministry of National Defense; BERLIN - STRAUSBERG
General Command of the Armed Forces; BERLIN - STRAUSBERG
Navy Command; ROSTOCK
Air Force Command; BERLIN - STRAUSBERG
Border Police Command; BERLIN - KONIGSWUSTERHAUSEN
People's Police Command; BERLIN - STRAUSBERG
Alert Police Command; BERLIN - PANKOW
Guard Regiment; BERLIN - RUDERSDORFF
AA Artillery Regiment; ORANIENBURG
Armored Regiment; BERLIN - PANKOW
Signal Regiment; BERLIN - STRAUSBERG
Engineer Units; BERLIN - EICHTENBERG
Motor Transport Regiment; BERLIN - RANGST.

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ARMY CORPS

1st Army Corps (South); Command, LEIPZIG
15th Mechanized Division; Command, DRESDEN
16th Mechanized Division; Command, POTSDAM
8th Motorized Infantry Division; Command, ERFURT
9th Motorized Infantry Division; Command, HALLE
Heavy Artillery Regiment; Command, LEIPZIG
Missile Unit; Command, ERFURT
Antitank Artillery Regiment; Command, LEIPZIG
AA Artillery Regiment; Command, LEIPZIG
Motor Transport Regiment; Command, L/ENGELSDORFF
Engineer Regiment; Command, L/ENGELSDORFF
Signal Regiment; Command, LEIPZIG

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SECRET2nd Army Corps (North); Command, NEUBRANDENBURG

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17th Mechanized Division; Command, EGGESIN
 10th Motorized Infantry Division; Command, PRENZLAU
 11th Motorized Infantry Division; Command, SCHWERIN
 Heavy Artillery Regiment; Command, NEUBRANDENBURG
 Antitank Artillery Regiment; Command, NEUSTRELITZ
 Missile Unit (Experimental); Command, PEENEMUNDE
 AA Artillery Regiment; Command, NEUBRANDENBURG
 Motor Transport Regiment; Command, NEUBRANDENBURG
 Engineer Regiment; Command, BROHM
 Signal Regiment; Command, NEUBRANDENBURG

T/O, MECHANIZED DIVISION

Headquarters

Reconnaissance Units	1
Mechanized Regiments	3
Heavy Mortar Regiments	1
Artillery Regiments	1
AA Artillery Regiments	1
Heavy Tank Regiments	1
Medium Tank Regiments	1
Engineer Battalions	1
Signal Battalions	1
Transport Battalions	1
Medical Detachments	1
Military Police Detachments	1

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Reconnaissance Unit (Strength, 500 men)

- 1 armored company, composed of 3 platoons and one headquarters section.
- 1 motorized company, composed of 3 platoons and one headquarters section.
- 1 reconnaissance company, composed of 1 reconnaissance tank platoon and 2 transport platoons.
- 1 antitank battery, composed of 2 sections.
- 1 transport platoon.
- 1 Military Police platoon.

Weapons:

7.62-mm pistols	120
7.62-mm rifles	120
7.62-mm machine pistols	218
7.62-mm machine guns	32
82-mm mortars	4
57-mm guns	4
Reconnaissance tanks, KWK-47	4
T-34/85 tanks	10
BTR-152	8
Motor vehicles	14
Motorcycles	120

Mechanized Regiment (Strength, 2,134 men)Headquarters

- 1 Headquarters company, composed of 3 platoons
- 1 Reconnaissance Company, composed of 1 tank platoon and 2 transport platoons.
- 3 Mechanized Battalions, each composed of 3 companies.
- 1 Armored battalion, composed of 3 companies.
- 1 Antitank artillery group, composed of 3 batteries.

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1 AA company, composed of 3 platoons.

1 Engineer company

1 Signal company

1 Transport company

1 Quartermaster company

1 Medical section

1 Military Police section

Weapons:

7.62-mm pistols	515
7.62-mm rifles	1,331
7.62-mm machine pistols	378
7.62-mm light machine guns	85
7.62-mm machine guns	12
82-mm medium mortars	24
120-mm heavy mortars	6
Antitank rifles (Panzerfaust)	83
76-mm antitank guns	12
12.7-mm AA machine guns	9
57-mm light guns (assigned to the mechanized battalions)	12
Reconnaissance tanks, KWK-47	7
T-34/85 tanks	21
BTR-152	10
Motor vehicles	340
Motorcycles	15

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Heavy Mortar Regiment (Strength, 508 men)

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Headquarters

1 Signal Unit

3 Heavy mortar battalions (each battalion has 3 companies and each company has 6 mortars)

Weapons:

7.62-mm rifles	378
7.62-mm machine pistols	130
120-mm mortars	54

Artillery Regiment (Strength, 670 men)

Headquarters

1 Signal company

1 Artillery technical services unit

3 Antitank groups (each group has 3 batteries, each with 4 guns)

1 AA company

1 Transport unit

1 Medical section

1 Military Police section

Weapons:

7.62-mm pistols	67
7.62-mm rifles and carbines	603
76-mm antitank guns	36
12.7-mm AA machine guns	9
Motor vehicles	76

AA Artillery Regiment (Strength, 316 men)

Headquarters

1 Signal company

1 Artillery technical services unit

1 Searchlight battalion

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1 AA Machine gun battalion

2 AA Artillery groups

1 Transport unit

1 Medical section

1 Military Police section

Weapons:

12.7-mm AA machine guns	18
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37-mm AA guns	24
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7.62-mm pistols	42
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7.62-mm rifles and muskets	274
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Note: This regiment is motorized. It lacks heavy (85-mm) AA artillery which, as is known, is supplied to AA units of the Commands of the Army Corps.

The AA regiments of the Mechanized Divisions have recently been supplied with 7 ZSU-57-2 and there are plans to include these guns in the armored units.

Heavy Tank Regiment (Mechanized Division) (Strength, 1,300 men)

Headquarters

1 Reconnaissance company

1 Heavy tank battalion

2 SU battalions

1 Battalion motorized infantry

1 AA company

1 Quartermasters company

1 Transport unit

1 Medical section

1 Signal company

1 Military Police section

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Weapons:

7.62-mm pistols	476	25X1
7.62-mm rifles and carbines	678	
7.62 machine pistols	146	
7.62-mm automatic rifles	30	
7.62-mm machine guns	8	
12.7-mm AA machine guns	6	
37-mm AA guns	6	
Reconnaissance tanks, KWK-47	8	
SU-152	42	
JS heavy tanks	23	
Motor vehicles	138	

Note: The heavy tank regiment of the Mechanized Division differs

from the heavy tank regiment of the Armored Division in the number of SU.

Medium Tank Regiment (Mechanized Division) (1,220 men)

Headquarters

1 Reconnaissance company

1 Battalion medium tanks

2 Battalions SU

Motorized Infantry battalion (3 infantry companies, 1 antitank battery, and 1 mortar company)

1 AA Artillery company

1 Signal company

1 Transport unit

1 Military Police section

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Weapons:

25X1

7.62-mm pistols	476
7.62-mm rifles and carbines	598
7.62-mm machine pistols	146
7.62-mm automatic rifles	30
7.62-mm machine guns	6
12.7-mm AA machine guns	9
57-mm antitank guns	4
82-mm medium mortars	6
Reconnaissance tanks, KWK-47	6
SU-122	42
T-43/85 tanks	21
Motor vehicles	130
Motorcycles	21

Motorized Infantry Division

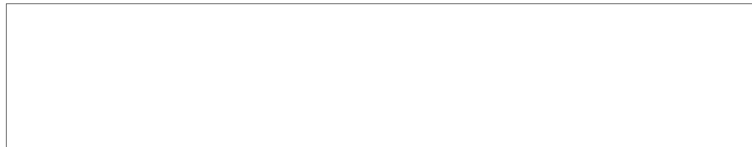
Headquarters

- 1 Reconnaissance unit
- 3 Motorized infantry regiments
- 1 Artillery regiment
- 1 Medium tank regiment
- 1 AA unit
- 1 Engineer battalion
- 1 Signal battalion
- 1 Medical battalion
- 1 Transport unit
- 1 Military Police unit

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Reconnaissance Unit (Strength, 500 men)

1 Tank company	25X1
1 Motorized company	
1 Antitank battery	
1 Transport platoon	
1 Military Police platoon	

Weapons:

T-34/85 tanks	10
BTR	8
Reconnaissance tanks, KWK-47	4
57-mm antitank guns	4
82-mm medium mortars	4
7.62-mm heavy and light machine guns	32

Motorized Infantry Regiment (Strength, 1,736 men)

Headquarters

- 1 Reconnaissance platoon
- 1 Reinforced platoon
- 3 Motorized infantry battalions (each with 3 infantry companies,
1 antitank company, and 1 mortar company)
- 1 Mortar battalion
- 1 Antitank group
- 1 AA company
- 1 Signal company
- 1 Engineer company
- 1 Transport unit
- 1 Medical section
- 1 Military Police section

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SECRETWeapons: (the weapons of the Motorized Infantry Regiment given above,

plus:)

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Motor vehicles	270
76-mm antitank cannons	12
82-mm mortars	24
120-mm mortars	6
12.7-mm AA machine guns	9

Motorized Infantry Battalion

- 1 Headquarters platoon
- 3 Motorized infantry companies (each with 3 platoons)
- 1 Mortar company
- 1 Antitank battery
- 2 Transport platoons

Weapons:

7.62-mm pistols	78
7.62-mm machine pistols	110
7.62-mm rifles and carbines	312
7.62-mm automatic rifles	30
7.62-mm machine guns	6
82-mm medium mortars	6
57-mm antitank guns	4

Artillery Regiment (Strength, 670 men)**Headquarters**

- 1 Signal company
- 1 Technical services company
- 3 Antitank groups (each with 3 batteries of 4 guns)

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1 AA company

25X1

1 Transport unit

1 Medical section

1 Military Police section

Weapons:

7.62-mm pistols	67
7.62-mm rifles and carbines	603
76-mm antitank cannons	36
12.7-mm AA machine guns	9
Motor vehicles	76

Medium Tank Regiment (Motorized Infantry Division) (Strength, 1,220 men)

Headquarters

1 Reconnaissance platoon

1 Engineer platoon

1 Quartermasters platoon

3 Armored battalions

1 Motorized infantry battalion (3 infantry companies, 1 antitank battery, and 1 mortar company)

1 AA company

1 Signal company

1 Transport unit

1 Medical section

1 Military Police section

Weapons:

T-34/85 tanks	65
BTR-152	6
82-mm medium mortars	6

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57-mm antitank cannons	4	25X1
12.7-mm AA machine guns	9	
7.62-mm heavy machine guns	6	
7.62-mm machine guns	30	
Motor vehicles	130	

AA Artillery Unit (Strength, 220 men)**Headquarters**

- 1 Reconnaissance unit
- 1 Technical services unit
- 2 Searchlight companies
- 1 AA machine gun battalion
- 1 AA artillery group
- 1 Medical section
- 1 Transport section
- 1 Military Police section

Weapons:

12.7-mm AA machine guns	18
37-mm AA cannons	12

Note: Full information is not known about the following sections of either the Mechanized Division or Motorized Infantry Divisions:

Engineer battalion	320 men
Signal battalion	220 men
Medical battalion	80 men
Technical services battalion	340 men
Transport battalion	250 men
Military Police battalion	220 men

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ROCKET ARTILLERY

All Mechanized or Motorized Divisions of the countries belonging to the Warsaw Pact are being supplied with 132-mm rocket artillery of the Katyushka-type.

NAVY

List of ships:

Submarines:

- 2 ex-German, U-2344-Class and UW-20-Class
- 4 new, 205-ton

Frigates:

- 2 ex-Soviet, Riga-class, 900 tons; marked I-6, I-62
- 1 ex-Danish, formerly Hvidbjornen, 1,050 tons, at present christened E. Thalmann (used as training ship)

Escort Destroyers:

- 4 new Kola-Class, 1,400 tons

Destroyers:

- 2 new ships being fitted out
- 1 ex-German being fitted out

Training Ships:

- E. Thalmann, 1,050 tons
- W. Pieck, 200 tons

Patrol Vessels:

- 4 ex-Soviet, 300-ton, Kronstadt-Class
- 48 new, 53-ton, G-112-Class
- 6 new, 4-41-Class
- 9 new, 4-911-Class
- 10 new, G-201-Class

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Mine sweepers:

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6 MLR-6-33-Class, 500-ton

6 MLR-6-73-Class, 500-ton

9 under construction

Small Minesweepers:

21 of the 7-51-Class (R-Class) supplied by the USSR

13 of the D-01-Class, new ships

Motor Torpedo Boats:

8 supplied by the USSR, 53-ton

6 new ships

Surveying Vessels:

Ekvator, 1,200 tons, supplied by the USSR

J. Kruger, 200 tons

Helmut Just, 475 tons

Fishery Protection Vessels:

R. Koch, 1,520 tons, built 1955

Battelli Armati (A-Schiffe) [sic]

9 of the 823-Class, built 1954-1955

6 of the 811-Class, 140-ton

Note: The Naval Missile Experimental Division consists of 4 new ships upon which missiles like the GOLEM-1 have been installed. The normal base of this unit is at PEENEMUNDE.

Naval Bases:

ROSTOCK

PEENEMUNDE

VOLGAST

LIBAU

PAROW

SASSNITZ

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SECRETAIR FORCE

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The Air Force is still being formed; the planned organization will be two jet Air Divisions and one piston-engine Air Division.

Air Bases:

BERLIN

DESSAU

RECHLIN

COTTBUS (Advanced Air Academy)

ERFURT

FREISACK

BURG

FINSTERWALDE

HARZBERG

DAMGARTEN

Air Group Commands:

21st Air Group Command (LGK) at DESSAU

24th Air Group Command (LGK) at BERLIN

26th Air Group Command (LGK) at RECHLIN

11th Air Reconnaissance Group (LAG) at COTTBUS

1st Air Transport Group (LTG) at FINSTERWALDE

Aircraft:

ME-109 (German)

YAK-3, YAK-9 (Soviet, fighter training)

IL-2 (Soviet, bomber)

IL-12 (Soviet, transport)

MIG-15 (Soviet, jet fighter)

MIG-17 (Soviet, jet fighter)

Note: There are plans to supply YAK-25. See "Weapons Supplied by the USSR."

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